

History Your Host

Travel back into the past and live as the Melanaus did before the first Europeans set foot in Borneo.



Enjoy bed and breakfast in an atmosphere that has not changed for centuries. Live in the living legend that is Lamin Dana.

This unique Melanau tall house, the first to be built for more than 200 years, is more than a living museum, it is a home, a home to the culture and legends of the Melanau people and a home that takes in guests.



Lamin LD Sdn Bhd (529036-U)
Tel/ Fax : (6082) 687 886
E-mail : drosel02@hotmail.com



Sarawak Tourism Board
E-mail : sarawak@po.jaring.my
URL : www.sarawaktourism.com



For the more adventurous travellers who want to see more of Sarawak, Mukah can be reached by road from all parts of Sarawak and there are regular bus services from the main towns.



Mukah is a coastal town in central Sarawak and can be reached by air from Kuching, Sibiu or Miri by 18-seater Twin Otter. There are direct flights to Sarawak from Kuala Lumpur, Singapore, Brunei and Perth and you can fly from Hong Kong via Kota Kinabalu in Sabah.

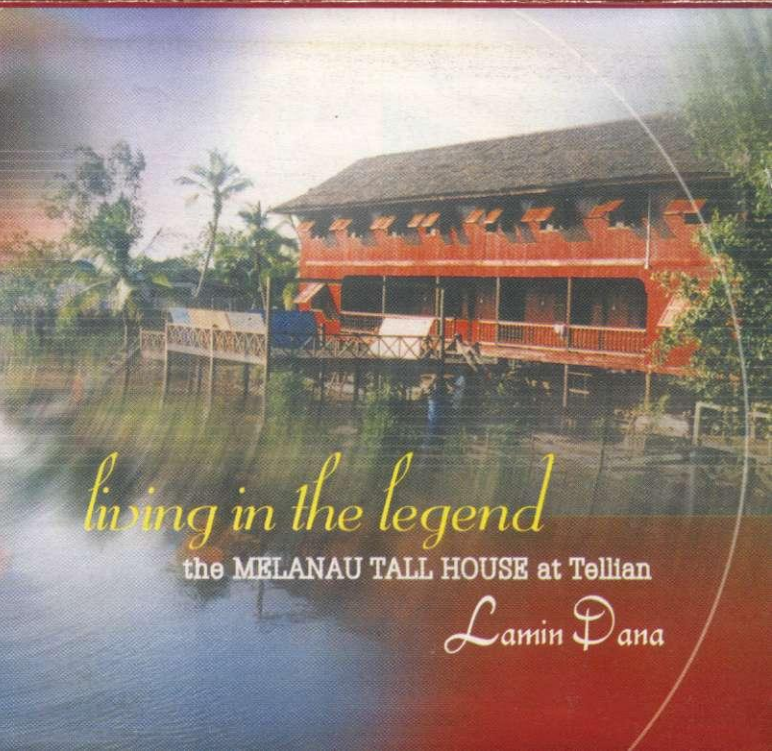
Getting there



living in the legend

the MELANAU TALL HOUSE at Tellian

Lamin Dana





Rebuilding the Past

At one time the tall houses were to the Melanaus what longhouses are to Borneo's other indigenous people. Although the spirit lives on, only a few tall houses remain and these are isolated and not suitable for entertaining guests.

The villagers of Tellian decided to make their legends and their culture available to the world by building a new tall house, the first in over two centuries. Here you can totally immerse yourself in the culture, cuisine, crafts and customs of this unique and friendly community.



Conserving Culture

Lamin Dana was not built as a mere museum to the past or just a quaint guesthouse. It was always meant as a home where the robust Melanau culture could continue to thrive. One of Lamin Dana's main objectives is to conserve the Melanau traditional way of life through the revival of ancient dances, cottage industries such as weaving and wood carving, ethnic games and martial arts.



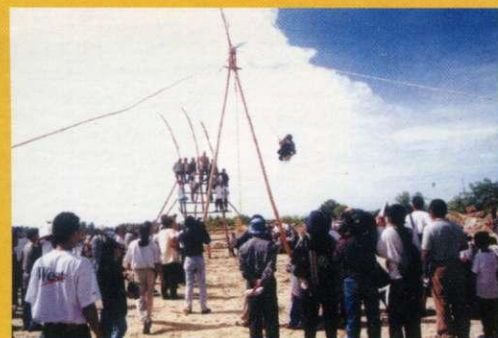
Food for Thought

It would be unthinkable for Melanaus to have guests and not ply them with a appetizing variety of food. Guests at Lamin Dana will soon find why Melanau cuisine is famed throughout Sarawak. The versatile sago palm has become the Melanaus' staple food. Your palate will be surprised at the many delicious ways sago can be prepared. Add the vast variety of succulent seafood that the local fishermen catch in the South China Sea, local fruits and delectable desserts and you have the magnificent, mouth-watering Melanau menus that have made the area famous.



Dancing in the Dark

Culture lives at Lamin Dana. By day you can interact with the local fishermen and catch your own fish for dinner. You can take a long boat past the great strings of sago logs floating on the stream, visit the sago and fruit plantations and see how the women use the flour to make a variety of tasty treats. You can also see the local craftsmen working at intricate woodcarvings or watch the women weaving sago palm leaves into the colourful *terendak*, the conical sun hats that are a must as souvenirs. As the sun sinks in a sea of flame on the horizon and the trees glow with a myriad fireflies, be prepared for a cultural feast as the local people stage the traditional dances, games and displays of the Melanau art of self defence.



Festive Spirits

Lamin Dana is an ideal base from which to take part in local festivals and the biggest of these is Kaul in April. The beach at Mukah becomes one great carnival ground, the focus of which is the *tibau* or giant swing on which local youths defy danger as they swing in clusters high above the sand. Local legend says at night, when the beach is deserted, the *tibau* moves by itself as the ancestral spirits get in the swing.



Wedding Bells

Why wait for a local festival to happen? Create your own festival. Lamin Dana is available for weddings and engagement parties. You can make that big day in your life even more memorable by having a traditional Melanau wedding in a traditional Melanau tall house with rituals whose origins are obscured by the mists of time.

